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WHIRLWIND CASE

Free . . . After All

A 40-year-old, 19-year prisoner of Angola Penitentiary was freed on a writ of habeas corpus, recharged, re-sentenced and freed again in a whirlwind legal proceeding today in Criminal District Court.

Matthew Henderson had served 19 years of a life sentence for aggravated rape. His attorney filed a writ of habeas corpus alleging that the grand jury and Henderson's trial jury were improperly selected. Henderson is a Negro and his attorney, Sam Monk Zelden, said there were no blacks on either jury.

Judge Thomas M. Brahney granted the writ and instructed the District Attorney to file new charges against Henderson.

The judge then re-sentenced Henderson to a prison term equal to the time he had served already and at the same time gave him credit for that time served. Henderson now is a free man.